

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 178981 TOSEC 080139

63

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:ARLAY:JFC

APPROVED BY NEA - MR. ATHERTON

S/S - JPMOFFAT

S:AADAMS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 178981 TOSEC 080139

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE SALES

REF: SECTO 08052

FOR BREMER FROM ATHERTON

1. LAST LETTER PROVIDED FOR UNDER SCENARIO DESCRIBED
STATE 177918 WILL BE SUBMITTED SEPTEMBER 6 AND EXPIRE
SEPTEMBER 26. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM TEXT OF ACTING SECRE-
TARY'S LETTER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, WE UNDERTOOK TO PRO-
VIDE THIS FINAL NOTIFICATION LETTER "IF NECESSARY". IN
MY VIEW, IT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE NECESSARY TO SUBMIT
IT, SINCE PREVIOUS PERIOD WILL EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 6, ONLY
TWO DAYS AFTER CONGRESS RETURNS FROM RECESS.

2. TOM PICKERING REPORTED (AMMAN 5098 REPEATED TO YOU)
THAT HUSSEIN EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO GO AHEAD WITH A
40-DAY DELAY. WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR HERE THAT ADDI-
TIONAL 20 DAYS WOULD BE REQUIRED ON "IF NECESSARY" BASIS

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TO SECURE CONGRESSIONAL AGREEMENT TO ARRANGEMENT, WE GOT IN

TOUCH WITH PICKERING AGAIN. PICKERING HAS INFORMED US HE
TALKED TO RIFAI ABOUT ADDITIONAL 20 DAYS. RIFAI SAID
HE UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD GO ALONG WITH THIS ADDITIONAL DE-
LAY IF WE FELT WE NEEDED IT. RIFAI DID NOT FEEL IT
NECESSARY TO CHECK THIS FURTHER EXTENSION EXPLICITLY
WITH KING, SINCE LATTER HAD AGREED TO PRINCIPLE OF PRO-
CEDURAL ARRANGEMENT WE WORKED OUT WITH SENATE FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO OBTAIN MORE TIME IN WHICH TO SEEK
SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF HAWK PROBLEM.

3. I HAVE JUST SEEN NEWS REPORT OUT OF AMMAN, INCIDENTEN-
TALLY, INDICATING THAT RIFAI HAS PUT POSITIVE TWIST ON
THE DEAL BY SAYING THAT OUR ARRANGEMENT FOILED EFFORTS
OF ISRAELI SUPPORTERS TO HAVE HAWK SALE TURNED DOWN BY
CONGRESS. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY SALES, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE178981
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARDAY:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750261-0875
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750710/aaaaajok.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 SECTO 8052
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE SALES
TAGS: MASS, JO, US
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006